Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 COME-00 STR-04 SIL-01 LAB-04 TRSE-00 INT-05 OIC-02 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 OMB-01 /089 W

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R 200917Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0556 INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNIDO, EIND, EG

SUBJECT: US STEEL PROJECT IN EGYPT: SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF

MEETING WITH UNIDO

REF: STATE 4934

1. MISSION MET WITH US STEEL'S CARR AND OTHERS MORNING JANUARY 17 AND AGAIN JANUARY 19. CARR REPORTED HE AND ASSOCIATES FULLY SATISFIED WITH OUTCOME OF MEETINGS WITH UNIDO. ACCORDING TO CARR, UNIDO TEAM, LED BY PAL SZAKAL (HUNGARY), NEW CHIEF OF METALLURGICAL INDUSTRIES SECTION, WAS BUSINESSLIKE, COMPETENT AND COOPERATIVE; THE TWO SIDES WENT POINT-BY-POINT THROUGH US STEEL'S OBLIGATIONS LUNDER CONTRACT WITH UNIDO, RESULTING IN EXPRESSION OF UNIDO SATISFACTION WITH PROGRESS AND AGREEMENT THAT PROJECT IS ON, OR AHEAD OF SCHEDULE AS FAR AS CONTRACTOR'S OBLIGATIONS CONCERNED. BOTH SIDES SIGNED AGREED MINUTES SETTING OUT COMMON UNDERTANDING OF TAKS REMAINING TO BE ACCOMPLISHED.

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2. ACCORDING TO CARR AND SECRETARIAT SOURCE, THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT A MAJOR ELEMENT OF DIFFICULTY IN CARRYING OUT PROJECT, PROVISION OF EGYPTIAN COUNTERPART TO US STEEL TEAM, WOULD BE SUBJECT OF UNIDO DISCUSSION WITH EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS, ALONG WITH FULL REVIEW IN CAIRO OF STATUS OF PROJECT AND COMMON US STEEL/UNIDO UNDERSTANDING. ON SUBJECT

OF TRAINING, WHICH HAD BECOME MAJOR POINT OF DISPUTE, US STEEL UNDERTOOK PROVIDE TRAINING IN US FOR 12 EGYPTIAN COUNTERPARTS, ALTHOUGH CONTINUING TO MAINTAIN THAT THIS NOT INCLUDED IN CONTRACT. UNIDO HAS AGREED IMMEDIATELY RESUME PAYMENTS TO US STEEL AS CALLED FOR IN CONTRACT.

3. IN SUM, APPEARS MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN UNIDO AND US STEEL HAVE BEEN IRONED OUT AND COMMON AGREEMENT REACHED ON NECESSITY OF IMPELLING EGYPTIAN IRON AND STEEL CO. TO CONCENTRATE MORE OF ITS RESOURCES ON PROVISION OF COUNTERPARTS TO US STEEL PROJECT TEAM.STIBRAVY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am

Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED**

Concepts: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), STEELS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 20-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VIENNA00457
Document Source: Conference Confe

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770021-0832 Format: TEL

From: VIENNA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770131/aaaabbmh.tel

Line Count: 74 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9c1961d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION IO

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: 77 STĂTE 4934

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 17-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a

Review Transfer Date: Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3544108 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: US STEEL PROJECT IN EGYPT: SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF MEETING WITH UNIDO

TAGS: EIND, EG, US, UNIDO

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9c1961d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009